

BUSINESS PLACES

DRAWER 3

MATURITY - SPRINGFIELD

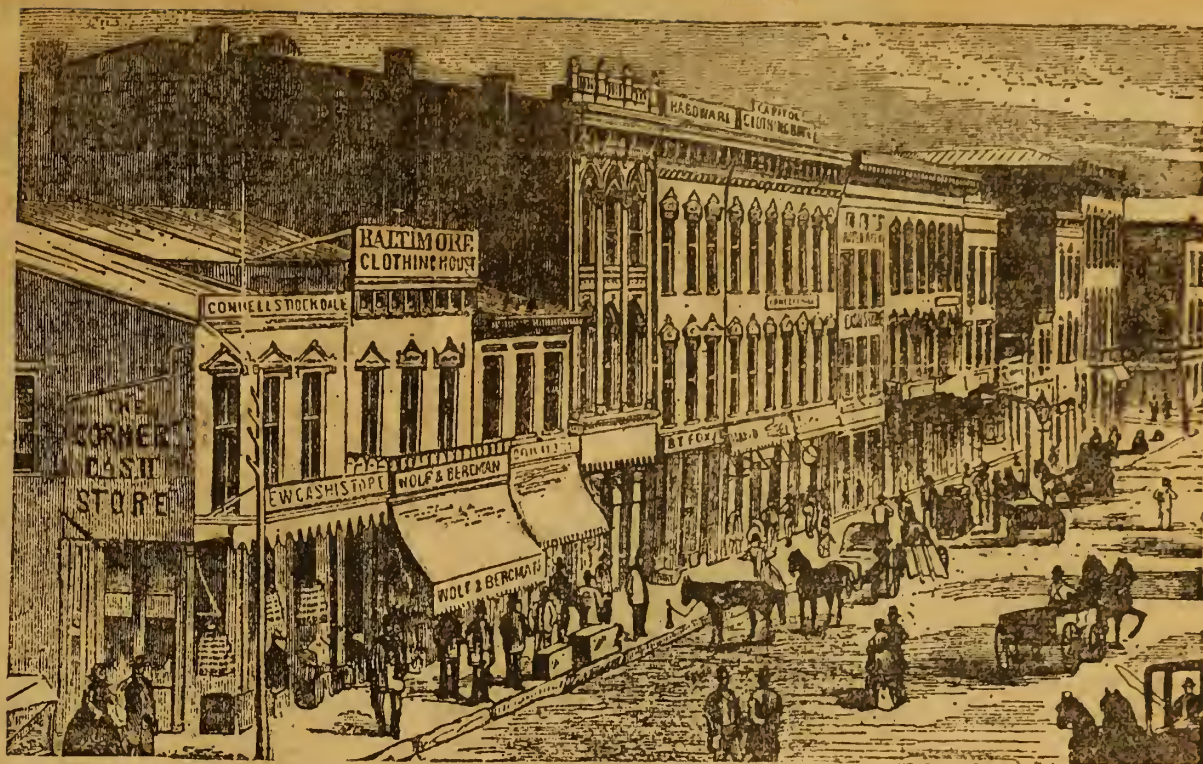
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Abraham Lincoln before 1860

Springfield, Illinois, Businesses

Excerpts from newspapers and other
sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection



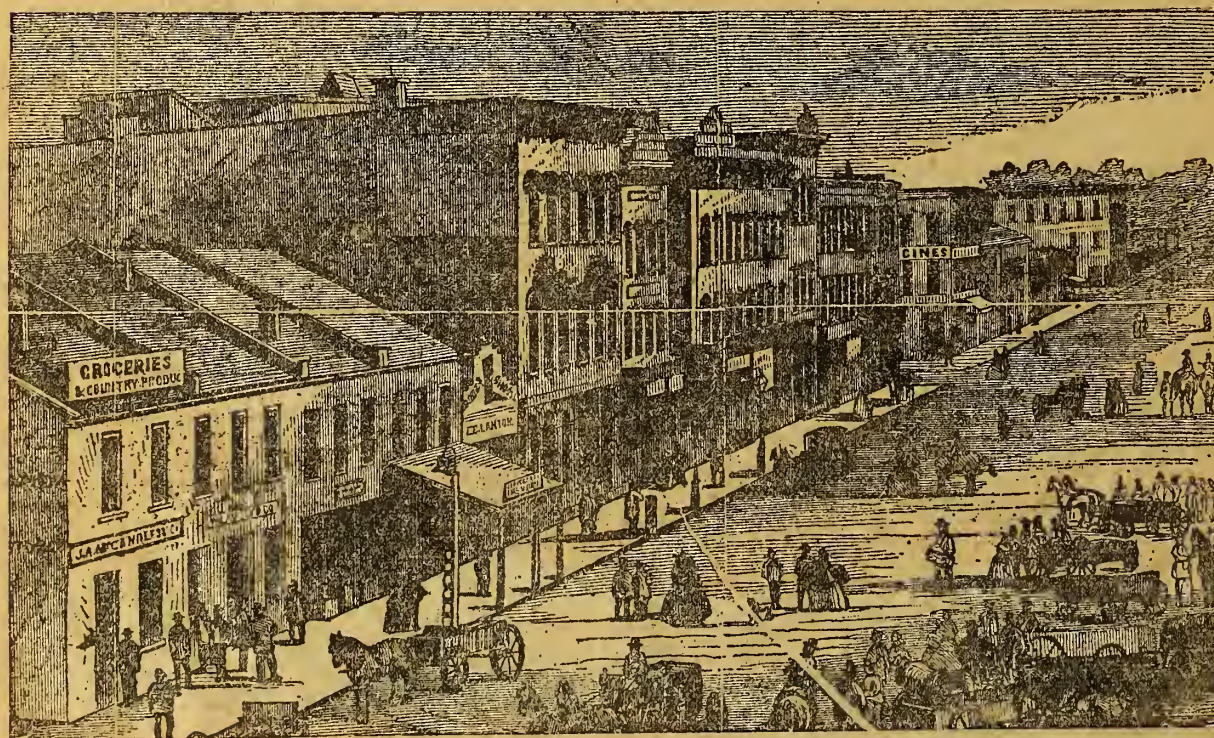
NORTH SIDE OF SQUARE IN 1860.



EAST SIDE OF SQUARE IN 1860.



SOUTH SIDE OF SQUARE IN 1860.



WEST SIDE OF SQUARE IN 1860.

SPRINGFIELD IN 1860; CONTEMPORARY VIEW.

(From Frank J. Leslie's illustrated newspaper, December 22, 1860.)

"This rising and prosperous city is naturally the center of the greatest agricultural tract in the world, and year after year the world is pouring into the lap of the farmer its rich and abundant treasures, and from the force of present circumstances, the great political interests not only of the state, but of the union, now concentrate here, and give it a position of extraordinary importance. The climate is singularly healthful and the location very beautiful.

"The city of Springfield was originally called 'Calhoun.' The first 'plat' of the city was recorded under that name in 1823, and it received its present name on further additions being recorded in December, 1865. Its first organization as a town took place on the 2d of April, 1832, and this event seemed to give a concentration to business thought, for the town grew rapidly in size, population and commercial activity.

"On the 20th of April, 1840, the inhabitants adopted a charter, granted by the legislature, and Springfield became a city. In 1850 the number of inhabitants numbered five thousand, one hundred and six. At the present moment, it numbers between ten and twelve thousand, so that Springfield has doubled its population in the term of ten years.

"Its first settlement was some time previous to 1820 (the exact date not known), by a family of the name of Kelly, which settled in what is now the west part of the city. They were the first white inhabitants that disturbed the Indian in his peaceful possession. The first house was built by John Kelly and was situated on the same spot where now stands the old frame dwelling known as the Garret house. Another one of the Kelleys built close to the spot where now stands the residence of Mrs. Trotter, and the third reared his humble cabin close to, if not upon the identical place where Archer D. Herndon, Esq., now resides. The second family, if we are correctly informed, came here in the spring of 1820, and settled in that part of the city known by the old inhabitants as Newssomeville, situated a little south and east of Hutchinson's burying ground. Their names were Duggett. No other settlements were made in or immediately around what is now Springfield, until the spring of 1821, when several families were added to the infant colony.

"All the original houses were simply log cabins, and years went by before such a thing was known as a frame house. The first brick house built still stands. It was built by John Taylor as a store house. It is the little brick situated at the south side of Jefferson street, a little west of the residence of William Carpenter, Esq.

"Springfield originally consisted of a little cluster of log cabins, situated in the neighborhood of the gas works. It was a long time before the town made any progress in the direction where the principal part of the city now is.

"It may seem strange that Springfield ever had a rival for the county seat; yet, nevertheless, she had a formidable opponent—one that contested the matter with her most bravely, one who, for a long time, counted up sure

victory, but, alas, for that rival now. There is nothing left but its name, and that name is Sangamon. If we are correctly informed, not a single house is left in Sangamon town to tell the story of its disappointed hopes—its desolation and decay.

"The first tavern that Springfield could boast was built by a person named Price. It was situated on the place where now stands the residence of Charles Lorsch. It was an old-fashioned, two-story log house. We sometimes hear the over-fastidious complain of the present hotel accommodations. All such should have spent a week at Prince's tavern, and we predict that they would grumble never again.

"The first tavern of any pretension was the Indian Queen hotel built by a prominent citizen, A. G. Herndon. It was the same house, subsequently enlarged and improved by Joel Johnson, and was burnt to the ground several years ago.

"The first store for the sale of goods in Springfield was opened by Elijah Hies. It was situated upon the same ground now occupied by the residence of the well known citizen, John Hay.

"In 1837 the seat of government for the state was removed from Vandalia to Springfield, and the first session of the legislature here was in the winter of 1839 and 1840. The senate held its session in the old Methodist church and the house of representatives met in the Second Presbyterian church.

"The city of Springfield at the present day presents a handsome appearance. The streets are well planned and wide and straight; and the public square, called the state square, which we illustrate, in the middle of which is situated the state house, is a noble expanse and a greater business center. Springfield contains many fine buildings, banks, churches, hotels, etc., all giving unmistakable evidence of commercial prosperity and substantial wealth. The completion of the Chicago Alton and St. Louis railroad was of great importance to Springfield, developing its resources and opening up to it ten thousand beneficent influences which always follow the course of the great civilizing agent of the age—the railway. Other railways are contemplated and seem to be demanded by the rapidly increasing importance of Springfield, the capital of the great state of Illinois.

AROUND CORNER STORE.

The store of Wallace & Diller early became the visiting place of Mr. Lincoln, for Mr. Wallace was his brother-in-law. When the firm subsequently changed, its drug store continued to be Mr. Lincoln's headquarters when he went down-town and did not go to his office. The firm began business Aug. 10, 1858. Its building was burned in February, 1859, and the present store then was erected. I remember when the store was burning meeting Mr. Lincoln with an armful of bottles he was trying to save. He stubbed his toe near the door and dropped all the bottles. He said he was no good as a bottle carrier, and left the building. He returned, however, to help carry out the stove. There were a great many associations around that stove, which was replaced in the new store. Around it there gathered a crowd of fifteen or twenty almost every evening when there was nothing going on in town. Among the names I now recall were N. H. Ridgely, General Brayman, William B. Funday, Ed Baker, and Mr. Lincoln. The group talked of everything under the heavens. Most frequently the talk ran to politics. Whatever the theme, Mr. Lincoln always had his story to illustrate the point he wanted to make. In those days men were a great deal more profane than they now are, but in the talk around that stove I never heard Mr. Lincoln use an oath. When he got started with his sarcasm in an argument he was merciless, and I have heard him furnish a more complete answer to an argument by a story than an hour's talk would have done.

My house was at the corner of Jackson and Seventh streets and he lived at Jackson and Eighth streets. When I went to dinner the day he was nominated I passed him on his way down home with a telegram in his hand. "There is a little woman down here who is interested," he said.

"I'm awful glad Springfield has a candidate for the Presidency," I said. "but I've got to vote for Little Doug."

"That won't make any difference with us, Roller," he replied in his usual kindly tone, and passed on. The nomination did not affect him in the slightest. All through the campaign, although he was running for the

highest gift in the hands of the people, he was just the same Lincoln. He would talk with anybody, white, black, yellow, or green. Of course he did not come to the store so much, for people went to his office to see him and kept him there.

I often have been asked where Mr. Lincoln got all the stories he told and if he made them up. A great many of them were based on his personal experience and were altered to suit his sense of what a story should be to be effective. Then everybody in the country who liked good stories always came straight to Mr. Lincoln or Mr. Wallace with a new one. Wallace liked good stories, but he never told one where he got the point right. I have seen Judges on the circuit come straight to the store from the stage and swap stories with Mr. Lincoln. It was before the time of newspapers such as we have now, and the story was the chief thing with those who had the sense of humor. I do not think Mr. Lincoln ever brought forth from his imagination a single story, but they were based on what he had seen or heard. Many of the stories, however, were so changed in his way of telling them that the man who invented them would not have recognized his work. He almost always told his stories around the stove to illustrate a point in his argument. And they did.

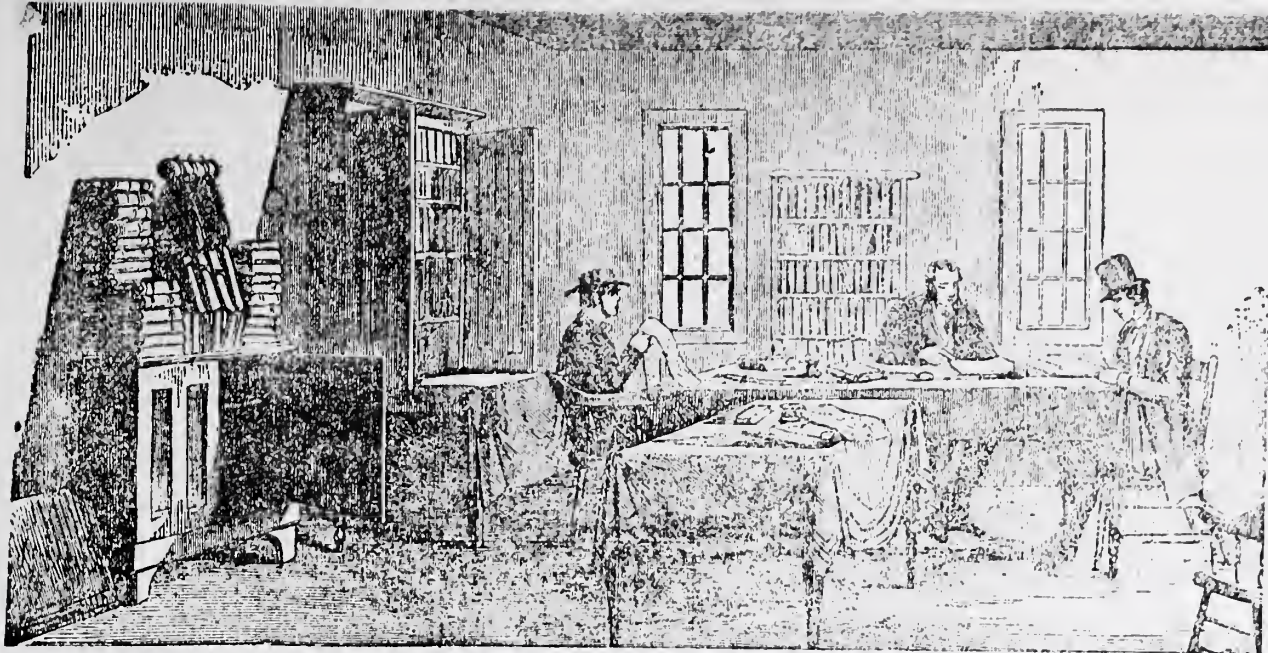
Even after he was elected to the Presidency not a shade difference could be seen in Mr. Lincoln. I remember hearing a great racket in the street in front of my house and stepped on the porch to see what was the matter. Mr. Lincoln was coming down the street with Tod and Will hanging to his coat-tails. They were yelling at the top of their voices.

"What's the trouble, Mr. Lincoln?" I asked.

"Same old trouble since the world began," he replied, as he pushed his way along up the street, dragging the boys behind him. "I have three walnuts in my pockets and each of the boys wants two."

I never will forget the figure Mr. Lincoln with his long form cut in playing handball. He was certainly the awkwardest man I ever saw.

H. W. DILLON.



OFFICE AND LINCOLN AND HERDON IN 1860.

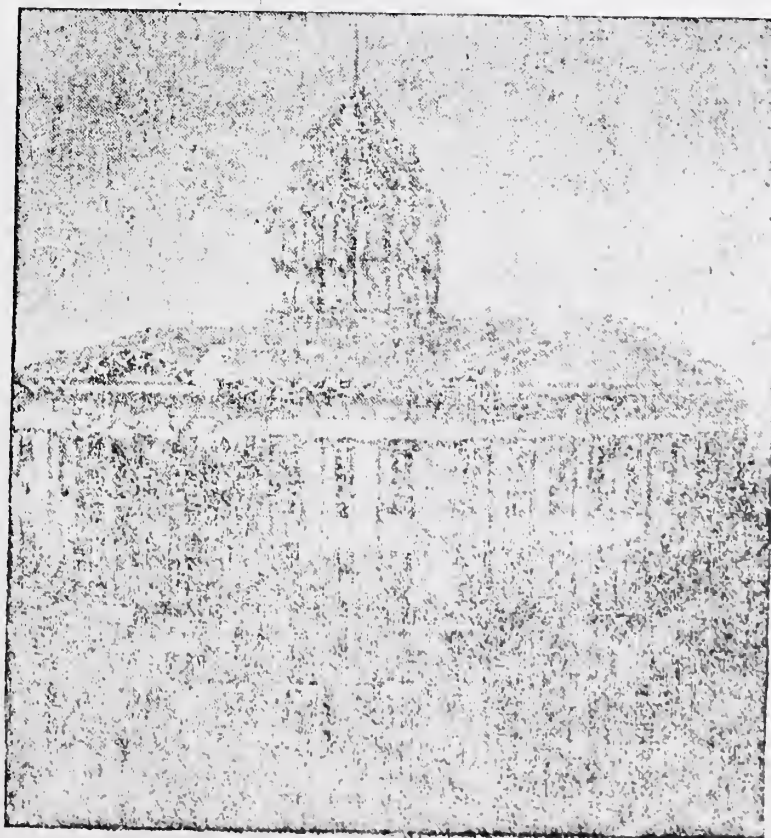
Springfield As It Was In 1860.

Scenes on the Public Square During Lincoln's Memorable Campaign for the Presidency.

Scenes of Springfield in the days of the presidential campaign of 1860 which resulted in the election of Abraham Lincoln as president of the United States are as interesting now as they were in the times when the campaign was at its height. A series of pictures representing Springfield as it appeared at that time was published in Frank Leslie's and these pictures, the original copies of which were in the possession of Mr. W. R. Beall, are reproduced by the Springfield News Co. in this issue. To the older residents they recall memories of the stirring days just before the great Civil war. Pictures are also given of the law offices occupied by Abraham Lincoln at different stages of his career as a lawyer, the first being in "Hoffman's Row," in the second story of the building now occupied by Stuart's Confectionery. This was when Lincoln was partner of John T. Stuart. This old building served as the county court house and from a hatchway opening from the law office into the county court room below, Lincoln is said to have dropped before the eyes of judges, jury and spectators on a memorable occasion to take part in a case at bar. The law office of Lincoln and Herndon on the west side of the square was the one which Lincoln occupied when he was nominated as the republican candidate for president in 1860. When he left the city to go to Washington he is said to have said to his partner, "Leave the old shingle up, Billy; I may need a place to stay when I come back." It never did come back alive, but the old shingle remained in its place for many years afterwards. The store building below the office was occupied from 1860 for many years afterwards by W. B. Miller as a hardware store. A former publication of the News brought forth criticism, but the weight of the evidence is to the effect that this was the actual location of the office, and some of those who hold a contrary opinion have since been

convinced of their error. Later positive testimony has been given on the point by a number of old citizens, among them John R. Campbell, who was a clerk in Miller's store in the old days and who declared positively that the office was over that store.

At that time the Illinois and Mississippi Telegraph Company, the predecessor of the Western Union, had its office over Chatterton's jewelry store on the west side of the square and in the rear of it was the office of James C. Conkling, where Lincoln was loung-



OLD STATE HOUSE, AS IT APPEARED WHEN DECORATED FOR LINCOLN'S FUNERAL

ing on the day of his nomination, May 18, 1860. He was anxiously awaiting news from the Chicago convention and had become greatly discouraged over the prospect. Rising and going out of the door he said: "Conkling, I guess I'll go back to my office and get ready to practice law." He had hardly left when the news of his nomination came over the wire. A slim lad who was in the office dashed up the street in pursuit of him and overtook him with the good news. The lad was Clinton L. Conkling, at present a prominent member of the Springfield bar.

On the south side of the square the old pictures show the Wideawakes on parade. The Wideawakes was the leading republican campaign club just as the Hickories was the leading democratic club of Springfield during the campaign of 1860. Many men are now living who marched with the Wideawakes and remember to have worn the oil cap and cape, which was the uniform of the club, and to have carried torches, and cheered themselves hoarse for Lincoln and Hamlin. Among the young men who remember to have marched in the club are: Clinton L. Conkling, I. N. Ransom, R. A. Higgins, and others, who retain pleasant recollections of the time. I. N. Ransom said: "If I remember right Captain John Cook was our commanding officer. We used to carry coal oil and have great times at the wigwam. I remember well how every time they had a meeting they used to call on Bob Irwin to sing. He was president of the old Marine Bank and a great figure in politics."

Clinton L. Conkling said: "The headquarters were in the octagonal wigwam built on the government lot at Sixth and Monroe, where the post-office now stands. The republican committee also had its headquarters on Sixth street."

John W. Bunn in recalling the old wigwam said: "I remember that the contract for the sale of the property to the government had been made but the deed had not passed so the republican committee just confiscated the ground for campaign purposes, or in other words squatted on it."

Ziari Enos, Dr. William Jayne, E. R. Thayer and other old residents spoke of the pictures and recalled the places familiar to their memory and the names of the men who did business around the public square. One feature of the old pictures that most vividly recalls the times is the costumes of the women who are shown with large hoop skirts giving them a ball room like appearance, and also with the high bonnets of the day. The picture also shows the wagons standing around the state house square where the farmers used to hitch their teams and feed them in the old day. At this time the state house was surrounded by a tall iron fence. Following is the list of merchants occupying the buildings on the public square in 1860:...

North Side Square, Looking East, 1860.

John S. Condell and Co., dry goods.
Wolf and Bergman, clothing.
John Williams and Co., dry goods, etc.
B. F. Fox, hardware.
Hammerslough Bros., clothing.
H. C. Meyers and Co., confectioners and bakers.
Grover Ayers, dry goods.
J. B. Fosselman, liquors and groceries.
D. J. Boynton and Co., housefurnishing goods, etc.
Francis Clinton, confectioner and baker.
Een Ivatt, liquors and tobacco.
W. D. Ward, jewelry and watches.
Charles E. Bowers, jewelry and watches.
S. B. Fisher, dry goods.
William Wardall, dry goods and groceries.

Hay building and United States court across street.

South Side Square, Looking East, 1860.

J. and J. W. Bunn, wholesale and retail grocers.
T. S. Little, clothing. (Daily Independent, third floor; dental rooms, second floor.)
E. B. Hawley and Co., dry goods, etc. (P. Butler, gallery upstairs.)
E. B. Pease, hardware.
David Hickey and Co., confectioners.
E. R. Wiley, tailor.
William T. Smith, cigars and tobacco.
Thomas Brady, saloon.
I. B. Curran, watches and jewelry.
Thomas J. V. Owen, druggist.
William W. Watson and Co., confectioners.
J. Taylor and Co., dry goods.
R. F. Ruth, harness and leather.
Lamb, Brown and Co., pork and beef packers.
E. D. Benjamin and Co., dry goods.
Yates and Smith, dry goods.
Matheny and Co., dry goods.
American House across street.

East Side Square Looking North, 1860.

J. D. B. Salter, groceries and provisions. (N. M. Broadwell law office up stairs.)
Wendell and Roper, boots and shoes.
J. R. Bacon, books and stationery.
James G. Hull, china, crockery, etc.
Corneau and Diller, druggists.
Vacant.
Vacant.
J. M. Burkhart, dry goods.
Alley.
Springfield Marine bank and Insurance company.
Sangamon county court house.

West Side Square, Looking North, 1860.

Dan P. Broadwell, groceries and provisions.
William Lively and Co., groceries.
J. H. Adams, hatter.
Woods and Henkle, merchant tailors.
T. G. Lansden and Co., boots and shoes.
George W. Chatterton, jeweler and silversmith. (Telegraph office up stairs.)
N. H. Ridgeley and Co., bankers.
Smith, Wickersham and Co., dry goods and stationery.
P. C. Canedy, drugs.
Joseph Chapman, dry goods and millinery.
M. M. VanDensen, druggist.
Elkin and Davis, dry goods, etc.
Greeble Louis, clothiers.
W. B. Miller, hardware. (Lincoln and Herndon law office upstairs.)
LaFayette Smith, retail and wholesale groceries. (J. A. McClelland law office.)
S. H. Melvin, wholesale and retail drugs across street.

In connection with the pictures of the public square the following descriptive and historical article from Frank Leslie's illustrated newspaper of December 22, 1860, is of interest:

EARLY CITY PICTURED BY J. T. STUART

Pioneer Settler Wrote Of 1828 Period.

From reminiscences of early settlers preserved in letters and addresses, it is possible to see Springfield in the period when *The Journal* was established.

John T. Stuart, who came to Springfield in 1828, undertook in 1878, to picture the village of his young manhood. Stuart moved to Springfield Oct. 25, 1828. He traveled from Richmond, Ky., on horseback and was ten days reaching the Sangamo country. The night of the tenth day he spent on Sugar creek and proceeded to Springfield the next morning.

"All around," he said, "was unbroken prairie, the home of the wolf and the deer and the prairie fowl, unmarked by civilization or cultivation, except the scattering farms and houses along the timbers bounding the prairies. The dwellers in those houses, if then asked, would have informed you that these prairie lands would never be purchased of the general government, that they were not worth the taxes, and would ever remain pasture grounds for those owning the lands near the timber."

Springfield he described as "made up of a string of small houses, mainly extending three blocks, along Jefferson street from First to Fourth streets.

Unpainted Houses.

"The houses," he said, "were generally small, unpainted, and some daubed with mud. The rain of the morning had given to all a dreary, and cheerless look, bringing a fit of blues to one, who remembered the pleasant home of his boyhood, and then surveying for the first time, the home of his manhood, which then promised so little, and has proved so full of happiness."

From his own recollection and the reminiscences of Mr. Stuart and others, Jonathan P. Hall of Pekin in 1878 drew a map of Springfield, in which he undertook to designate the location of early buildings Major Stuart remembered. The limits of the settlement as he mapped it, extended from Madison street on the north, to Monroe street on the south, and from First street east to Seventh street. There were few houses west of First street on Jefferson street.

In this vicinity was located a tannery, a mill and a distillery. Springfield at that time had three hotels. They were conducted by Gordon Abrams, Colonel Cox and Andrew Elliott. William Proctor was the tan-

ner, John Taylor was the miller. Robert Matax and John Moor were in the cabinet-making business which included the making of coffins. William Herndon was the village butcher. Jesse Cormack was the tinner. The shoemakers were John Shurrell, Jacob Plank, Andrew Redman and Jabez Capps. Carpenter shops were conducted by William Hall and Philip Fowler.

Stores Of Village.

The stores of the village were those of Maj. Elijah Iles, M. M. Mobley, Ebenezer Capps, James D. Henry and A. G. Herndon. Thomas Strawbridge was the saddler and harness man. John White's blacksmith shop was located at Sixth and Jefferson streets.

The courthouse was in a building on the southwest corner of Sixth and Adams streets. The jail and whipping post were a block distant at Sixth and Washington streets. The map-makers remembered that there were two colored washerwomen in the village who were known as Aunt Creecy and Aunt Polly.

They succeeded, too, in designating the sites of the residences of Samuel Woodrow, William Carpenter, P. P. Enos, Levi Gooden, James Adams, Joseph Klein, Dr. Gershom Jayne, Doctor Elkin, Thomas Moffett, Doctor Darling, A. S. Shaw, Rev. John G. Bergen, Aleck Humphrey, and the residence of Washington Iles which adjoined Springfield on the south at Monroe street.

Altogether the map showed sixty buildings. When *The Journal* was established there had been a considerable increase in the population and some improvement in the village, notably the erection of several brick buildings. It was, however, only a little country town, unkempt and poor. Concerning its people when he came here, Major Stuart wrote:

Tells Of Citizens.

"The people then in Springfield were moral and honest; there was little stealing or cheating; there was no occasion then to lock up the doors and bar the windows at night; they had no fear of sleeping with all open. The use of ardent spirits was, perhaps, more general then than now, but there was less drunkenness. To drink was then fashionable, and the wonder is that all did not become drunkards. I have remarked that the early settlers of the town who habitually used ardent spirits, and especially those who used them to excess, have made no mark in the world, but died young and are forgotten, while the sober men as a rule have become heads of large and respectable families, lived respectably, and contributed to the building up of the city, and the advancement of all its social interests.

"Grouping the business men of that day, the lawyers were Gen. James Adams, Gen. Thomas M. Neal, Col. James Strode, Thomas Moffitt and Jonathan H. Pugh, men of mark then, but now all dead and forgotten, overshadowed by that brilliant galaxy of lawyers, their successors, which adorned the Sangamon bar between the years 1830 and 1849.

"The physicians were Dr. John Todd, Dr. Gershom Jayne, Dr. Garrett Elkin, Dr. E. Darling. They were good physicians in any country, were men of intelligence, estimable in all their social relations; besides they were men of splendid physique and able to endure the arduous labor of the practice of the day which re-

quired them to ride night and day, on horse-back or in the sulky, for fifty miles around. The merchants were Elijah Iles, Gen. Henry, Mordecai Mobley, John Taylor, Archer G. Herndon, while Ebenezer Capps kept the grocery. They were all good men then, and enjoyed the confidence of the community.

Charles R. Matheny.

"Charles R. Matheny was clerk of the circuit and county courts, and in fact, filled all the offices of the county. He emigrated from Virginia, was a lawyer by education and a Methodist preacher by practice. He had been clerk of the house of representatives, and a member of that body. He was a good and useful man, had a pleasant smiling countenance, beaming with benevolence as if the light of heaven was shining on him.

"Singling out from the others, Jonathan H. Pugh was born in Bath county, Ky., a lawyer by profession. Emigrating to the West, he settled in Bond county, Illinois; removed to Springfield, about the year 1824, where he lived until his death in 1834. He was possessed of a remarkably pleasant address, and was, in the fall of 1828, the most prominent and popular man in northwestern Illinois. He had a good and showy intellect, was brilliant in his wit, and in sparkling repartee, and for his social qualities was beloved by his friends. He was ambitious, and was elected three times as a representative in the legislature. He was a candidate for congress in 1832, and defeated by Governor Duncan. His mortification was so great that he surrendered to a habit which became his fatal enemy, died about the age of 35, and fills an unknown grave.

Gen. J. D. Henry.

"Gen. James D. Henry was a shoemaker by trade, which he followed at Edwardsville; removed to Springfield, and became a merchant; was sheriff of the county two or three terms; was first a colonel and then a brigadier general in the Black Hawk war, and at the battle of Wisconsin proved himself the hero of that war. He was a man of good understanding, of fine person, grave and generous, of wonderful magnetic influence and power to attach men to him. He went to New Orleans in the spring of 1834 for his health, and died and was buried there. At the time of his death he could have been elected to any office in the gift of the people of Illinois and the only question he debated, was whether in the election of 1834, he would be a member of congress or governor. He died aged about forty years, possessed of a good constitution, and a bright future before him, the victim of the same bad habit.

"Asa A. Shaw was from the state of New York, where he had been a merchant and failed. Settling at Springfield, he became emphatically the justice of the peace, possessed of a very strong intellect, good judgment, and superior business qualifications, and capable of great usefulness; but he, too, succumbed in the meridian of life to the same fatal enemy."

DILLER DRUG STORE

**Favorite Haunt Of Abraham Lincoln And Others
Who Helped Build Community.**

How the ghosts of the past must weep at the dear, dear days of long ago as they drift about in silent sadness before the door of a shop on the east side of the square where now they read the sign over the door, "Fancy Bazaar."

But this is not a ghost story, nor meant to be sad except that memories of companionship and song and laughter and story telling and friendly argument, woven into a dream of auld lang syne could well bring tears to the eyes of the Great Stone Face. Especially if those memories were centered about the sharing of life in the early days when there were no modern amusement devices, when men were knit more closely together because of being largely dependent for amusement upon an exchange of wit, seated about a big blazing cannon stove at the back end of a drug store. A group of men, still somewhat young, settling the world's problems even as you and I, not dreaming that one of them would one day become a martyr to just such a cause.

The inexorable march of time, today whittling and joking and spitting on the stove in a small town drug store, tomorrow mourned by an entire nation as its martyred president. Success Lincoln did taste, but would he not have given all of it just to be taken back to those dear carefree days with the gang, all of his dreams ahead of him and none of the memories of past sorrows to taint the joy of living?

Call At White House.

For one brief hour during his presidency, Mr. Lincoln did find himself taken back to that old haunt, Diller's drug store, almost as completely as though he had made the trip in flesh. Roland W. Diller, affectionately known as Uncle Rolly, one of the proprietors of the drug store, and John Nicolay, journeyed to Washington and asked to see the chief executive. Soldiers were marching up and down before the door out of which came the secretary to the president, informing them Mr. Lincoln was too busy, that he had just turned away an old friend.

"Well then," ventured Uncle Rolly, "I should like to see Mrs. Lincoln."

The secretary departed, and in a short while in came Mrs. Lincoln. She took them into the private living quarters of the white house. Mr. Lincoln was in conference just then, she told them, but would be through in a short while. Pretty soon, Lincoln himself strode into the room, hands outstretched in welcome. He lay down wearily upon a couch, long legs before him.

"Boys," he said, "tell me all about the folks back home."

Back Over The Years.

He closed his eyes and for an hour, which the widowed Mrs. Lincoln afterward declared did more for him than any one thing which had happened during a nerve-wracking presidency, he was carried back to the old scenes, living again, in fancy, the days which perhaps seemed so strangely carefree to him now.

The old gang, dear familiar figures, chairs tipped backward around the big stove, all come trooping back to him. That little fellow way over in the corner always could shift his cud and hit the stove with unfailing accuracy. There was Doug, (Stephen A. Douglas) his famous rival in love and war, grown dear in memory, Candle, Box John Calhoun, Major Stuart whom everybody liked, little Steve Logan, Col. Jim Matheny who as groomsman, had supported Lincoln's quaking legs not so long ago, bombastic Jim Shields displaying the latest styles, Ben Edwards and all the rest. He sometimes displayed skillful maneuvering in his efforts to regain his favorite chair. Some of the boys who came in late had to line

themselves up on the counters along the sides of the store, like birds on a rail fence, in flagrant violation of a big sign hanging over the prescription counter which read, "Gentlemen, please do not sit on the counter."

Whittled Chair Arm.

Steve Logan did go just a little too far one day in trying the patience of Uncle Rolly when he used the arm of his chair to whittle upon, and was informed that there was a pine box in the back yard which might do just as well as the chair. The little man rose with tremendous dignity for one of his size, and walked stiffly out of the door. He managed to stay away for a week when one day he spied some particularly genial spirits through the door and could hold out no longer. He came back carrying a piece of pine board from the box in the back yard, remarking, "Well, Uncle Rolly, I guess I have made a fool of myself long enough."

Perhaps Lincoln wondered, just a little wistfully, why the gang who were always just Steve and Judge and Jim, never thought of addressing him as anything but Mr. Lincoln, in great contrast to Mr. Douglas whom everybody hailed as Doug in the most familiar manner. They always did hang onto his stories which usually "brought the house down in a roar," and he wasn't so slow in appreciating them himself, clapping his big hands on his knees, unfolding his various angles from out of his chair, walking around it chuckling all the while, and then sitting down again.

Interested In Discussions.

Uncle Rolly must have had a lot of sweeping to do with the floor piled up with wood shavings. He never complained much about it, going right on handing out bottles of ipecac, packages of Allcock's plasters or a dose of Ayer's Pectoral, until sometimes when the argument between the Whigs and the Democrats became pretty hot, he would cease work for awhile and lean on his elbows as interested as the rest. He often said he could have received a college degree from listening to that gang argue over politics.

Sometimes, when all the world's problems had been settled to their taste, Jim Shields rendered a song or two in a rich Irish brogue. Colonel Wickersham years later told a story in the drug store about Shields, which he swore to be the truth, unbelievable as it might sound.

A rebel soldier had sent a bullet through Shields' chest during the Civil war. Wickersham tells about seeing a doctor in an army hospital take a ram-rod, fasten a silk handkerchief to it and poke it through Shields' chest and on out through his back. Shields was reported dead and lengthy and flowery obituaries were printed in the papers. Shields afterward called on one of the editors, Mr. Waters, and pointed out to him just 91 "lies" he had printed in the notice.

"Helps" Fight Fire.

In February of 1858, when the snow was knee deep, a fire burned out half the block of Hoffman's row, in which the drug store, then carrying the name Corneau and Diller, was located. From all accounts Mr. Lincoln did more harm than good in fighting that fire, although his heart was surely in the right place. He had his long arms full of bottles of expensive drugs and was carrying them out the door to safety when somebody coming the other way bumped into him and down went the bottles, all over the place. Lincoln decided the fire would get along better without him and went home.

Uncle Rolly had for years on display in front of his store, a rather crude desk which Mr. Lincoln used while a member of the legislature. Under one drawer is Lincoln's signature written roughly in pencil. The desk is now in the possession of Uncle Rolly's son, Isaac R. Diller of 511 West Carpenter street, who also

has the famous favorite drugstore chair of Lincoln.

Bought As Second Choice.

Isaac Diller tells about the time the desk was obtained at an auction sale. After much bidding but without success, for the desk which Stephen T. Logan had occupied, Mr. Lincoln's desk was purchased as second choice. Everybody at that time thought Logan would be the future great man from among them.

How much richer history would be if the crude old desk could speak and the famous chair come out of its silence and tell just what it might think of Lincoln. An old record book in Mr. Diller's possession, kept by his father, not bound to the silence of its contemporaries, exhibits several entries which might give the impression that Lincoln loved his drinks. A pint of brandy over on one page and a few days later a quart and a half. He bought it all for Mrs. Lincoln. Don't be scandalized, she used it in making mince pies.

Poor Mr. Lincoln. The hour was over. He must say good-bye to that old drug store gang and go back to warfare and bloodshed and finally to martyrdom.



SPRINGFIELD MARINE BANK BLDG.
Erected 1886



STUART AND LINCOLN'S LAW OFFICE.

From a photograph loaned by Jesse W. Weik. The law office of Stuart and Lincoln was in the second story of the building occupied at the time the photograph was made by "Tom Dupleaux's Furniture Store." Hoffman's Row, as a group of buildings was called, was used as a court-house at that date, 1837. The court-room was in the lower story of two central buildings.

OLDROYD



LINCOLN AND STUART'S LAW-OFFICE, SPRINGFIELD.

UNRECORDED

